

September 2003

About the Licensing Fee Increase

Department of Pesticide Regulation/Licensing and Certification

Why are licensing fees being increased?

The California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) licenses and certifies individuals and businesses that apply, sell, or recommend pesticides in California. DPR conducts about 4,000 examinations annually and issues or renews about 15,000 licenses, which are typically valid for two years. DPR also accredits more than 2,500 continuing education courses each year.

Fees associated with these activities ranged from \$15 to \$100. Most had not been changed for more than 15 years, and did not keep pace with the cost of doing business. An independent consultant retained by DPR in 2001 calculated the cost of licensing-related activities at \$1.7 million, with fee revenue covering only about half those costs. Moreover, there was no fee for some services (for example, certifying continuing education courses) that generated significant workload. The State Budget funding shortfall has made it difficult for DPR to upgrade the technology used to process licensing and renewal applications.

Under the new State Budget, the Department is primarily a fee-based agency, with most revenue drawn from fees on pesticide registrations, professional licenses, and from the mill fee (which is assessed on pesticide sales).

What will the new fees be?

Licensing fees are being raised only to a level necessary to support the program and to reflect an adjustment for inflation. The new fees range from \$25 to \$160. The application fee no longer includes the cost of taking an exam. There is now a fee for application and separate charges of \$50 for each examination. A \$45 fee is now levied for reviewing and approving continuing education courses. Penalties for late renewal of licenses and certificates have also been increased. *A summary of the new fee structure is on the other side of this handout.*

Will these fees change again?

The Legislature gave the Director authority in regulation to adjust fee rates as needed, using a standardized methodology and inflationary indicators.

How do I know what fees I should pay?

DPR applications and renewal forms will identify the fees. *Table 1*, on the other side, summarizes fee changes for individual licenses and certificates, *Table 2* for business licenses, and *Table 3*, the new fees for services for which no fee was previously charged.

For more information, contact California Department of Pesticide Regulation, Licensing and Certification Program, 1001 I Street, P.O. Box 4015, Sacramento, CA 95812, 916/445-4038. The program's direct e-mail address is LicenseMail@cdpr.ca.gov. You can also find more information on our Web site, www.cdpr.ca.gov, click the "Licensing and Certification" tab.

Licensing Fee Highlights

- ▶ *Most licensing fees have not changed for more than 15 years.*
- ▶ *Fees are being raised only to a level necessary to support the program and reflect an increase for inflation.*

Table 1: Summary of fee changes for individual licenses and certificates

License or certificate type	Application fee	Examination fee (for each exam taken or re-taken)*	2-year renewal	Late renewal penalty
Agricultural pest control adviser	\$80	\$50	\$140	\$70
Pest control aircraft pilot certificate	\$60	\$50	\$90	\$45
Pest control dealer designated agent license	\$25	\$50	\$50	\$25
Qualified applicator license	\$80	\$50	\$120	\$60
Qualified applicator certificate	\$40	\$50	\$60	\$30

* A separate fee will be charged for the Laws and Regulations exam and for each category requested.

Table 2: Summary of fee changes for business licenses

License type	Application	2-Year renewal	Late renewal
Pest control business, primary location	\$160	\$320	\$160
Pest control branch, for each location	\$80	\$160	\$80
Maintenance gardener pest control business	\$80	\$160	\$80
Pest control dealer, initial location	\$160	\$320	\$160
Pest control dealer branch, for each location	\$80	\$160	\$80
Pesticide broker license	\$110	\$220	\$110
Pesticide broker branch, for each location	\$60	\$120	\$60

Table 3: New fees for reissuing licenses and administration of continuing education

Notification of Change to Record of License or Certificate	
Changes that require reissuing a license or certificate, or issuing a duplicate license or certificate	\$20
Evaluation of Continuing Education Courses	
Evaluating continuing education courses, per course, per calendar year	\$45

For more information, visit our Web site, www.cdpr.ca.gov, or write us at LicenseMail@cdpr.ca.gov